

## STATUS OF WOMEN - WORKING GROUP ON CURRICULUM

Minutes of the ninth meeting of the Curriculum Committee held on Wednesday, October 1st at 1:00 p.m. at 2145 MacKay Street.

ATTENDANCE: Present Barbara Barclay, Elizabeth Morey, Catherine Rutherford, Fran Shaver, Tom Waugh, Helen Workman and Madeleine Yates.

Guest Gail Dalglish

Absent Sharon Hyman

Barbara Barkman resigned as president although she will remain a working member of the Committee.

Fran Shaver was nominated president which nomination she accepted.

Elizabeth agreed to chair this meeting.

Her memo to the Curriculum Coordinating Committee elicited a response which called for this committee to give them specific suggestions of what actions they must take. It was suggested that this be two-pronged 1) short-term guidelines which may be effected immediately and 2) long-term those which would take a much longer time to plan and implement.

Ideas discussed - ask of each dean what initiatives have been taken in his/her particular faculty towards balancing the curriculum. Let each dean monitor his/her particular faculty. Request that particular attention be paid to curriculum balance when examining new program proposals. Suggest deadlines for certain changes eg. exclusive language should be eliminated by publication of next undergraduate calendar. Any course guidelines or publications which come out of any dean's area should be scrutinized for this. Perhaps to make the changes manageable within a particular time frame we should take small steps and suggest that all 200 level courses should have a balanced curriculum by a particular date. It may be easier to begin the process with the 200 level courses as they are usually survey courses taught by part-time faculty, usually women. It was important to be precise and to provide a route to be followed.

Elizabeth asked for volunteers for smaller working groups 1) to prepare guidelines and 2) to rework the question on discrimination/sexism in the classroom. Fran, Helen, Tom and Madeleine agreed to work on the guidelines and Elizabeth, Catherine, Barbara and Gail agreed to work on the evaluation question.

We agreed to wait 1 week and then contact Ron Smith for a progress report on organizing the conference.

Avenues for consciousness raising were again discussed - newsletter out of Learning Development Centre would deal with 2 issues separately 1) balancing the curriculum which would serve as an introduction to the conference and 2) chilly classroom climate for women, as a separate issue.

To be reprinted in the Link and the Thursday Report. - Thursday Report to contain at least a monthly article. Objectives- educate, measure and change attitudes.

Re. evaluation - form should include question that would allow students to make a subjective comment. Perhaps should first be done as a pilot project - everyone asked to include the question or questions on their evaluation forms.

Helen suggested that students be alerted about the upcoming question/s via The Link. A time limit of 1 year could be imposed for the project. All questions should then be computer analysed and the information given to this committee.

The next meeting of the Curriculum Committee working group will be held on Wednesday, 10 October 15th at 12:00 noon.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'M. H. H.', is located in the center-right of the page.